

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8489

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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GENEVA FOR WISNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RH, UK

SUBJECT: BRITISH PRESS ON GENEVA TALKS, DECEMBER 7

1. BRITISH PRESS NOTES TODAY THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WILL MEET THIS WEEK WITH BRITISH MINISTERS TO DISCUSS 'THE KEY QUESTION' OF BRITAIN'S ROLE IN A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT.

2. FINANCIAL TIMES AFRICA CORRESPONDENT BRIDGET BLOOM: "...KISSINGER...IS TO HAVE TALKS IN LONDON THIS WEEK WITH...CALLAGHAN...AND...CROSLAND ON THE KEY QUESTION OF BRITAIN'S ROLE IN A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT. THE MEETING... WILL BE THE CULMINATION OF A SERIES OF DISCUSSIONS PRINCIPALLY DESIGNED TO DEFINE THE PRECISE ROLE BRITAIN SHOULD PLAY IN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA AND IN A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY.... BRITAIN'S ROLE IS SEEN AS INCREASINGLY CRUCIAL IF THE CONFERENCE IS UNCLASSIFIED

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TO HAVE ANY CHANCE OF ACHIEVING ITS AIMS."

3. TIMES DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT: "THE BRITISH AIM IS TO GIVE...COMING DISCUSSIONS (IN GENEVA) A FULL CHANCE TO DEVELOP. IF A SPIRIT OF PRACTICAL COOPERATION EMERGES, NOTABLY BY THE WHITE (SIC) TAKING A MORE FLEXIBLE POSITION ON THE KISSINGER PLAN, AND THE BLACK DELEGATIONS RESOLVING THEIR OWN DIFFERENCES, AN AGREEMENT MAY YET BE REACHED."

ARMSTRONG

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NNN

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